In addition, to contain the crisis accentuated due to the rise in prices of cotton and cotton yarns, the Government has enforced following measures:

(i) The drawback incentive @ 1% on export of cotton has been withdrawn;

(ii) Import duty on cotton has been removed.

(iii) A Notification has been issued on 22nd July, 2008 stipulating that the contracts for export of cotton shall be registered with the Textile Commissioner prior to shipment.

Setting up of new textile parks

615. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of setting up of 50 new textile parks to provide employment in the textile sector;

(b) whether the locations have been identified for setting up of these parks;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the expected time by when these parks would be established in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per the target, 30 projects in 10th Five Year Plan and 10 projects in the 1st phase of 11th Five Year Plan, *i.e.* total 40 projects have been approved under the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP).

(b) and (c) Locations of these approved projects are -Andhra Pradesh (2 projects in Ananthpur and one each in Mahboob Nagar, Nellore, Pochampally and Visakhapatnam), Assam (Darrang), Gujarat (5 projects in Surat and one each in Kutch and Kheda), Karnataka (1 project in Dodballapur), Maharashtra (3 projects in Ichalkaranji and one each in Baramati, Bhiwandi, Tarapur, Dhule, Hingoli, Islampur and Latur), Punjab (one each in Barnala and Nawansehar), Rajasthan (2 projects in Kishangarh and one each in Pali and Jaipur), Tamil Nadu (one each in Cuddalore, Karur, Komarapalayam, Madurai, Palladam and Perundurai), Uttar Pradesh (1 project in Gorakhpur), West Bengal (one each in Kolkata and North 24 Pargana).

(d) One project was inaugurated in April, 2008. Three more projects have reported completion. Five more projects are expected to be completed by March, 2009. Remaining projects are expected to be completed in 2009/2010.

Workers rendered jobless due to closure of Textile Mills

616. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers rendered jobless due to closure of textile mills during the last five years;

(b) the measure taken to rehabilitate them;

(c) the number of workers given financial assistance so far;

(d) whether lakhs of workers have been given financial assistance so far; and

(e) the measures taken to ensure assistance to each and every worker rendered jobless, without fail?